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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**INNEROPTIC TECHNOLOGY AWARDED ANOTHER GRANT FROM THE
THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HEALTH**

Hillsborough, NC (July 6, 2009) – InnerOptic has been awarded a Phase I Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) grant for \$99,462 from the National Institute of Health’s National Center for Research Resources. The objective of the grant is to develop a prototype to facilitate the use of laparoscopic devices during minimally invasive surgical (MIS) procedures using InnerOptic’s patented 3D visualization technology.

Traditionally, using ultrasound for MIS procedures is difficult and error prone, as the surgeon must mentally correlate two video images (video and ultrasound) the same anatomy on two separate monitors. These images are not spatially aligned, and anatomical features in one image do not correspond to the same features in the other image.

With this award, InnerOptic will address this coordination problem by spatially fusing the laparoscopic video imagery with the laparoscopic ultrasound into a single, unified display. With this system, the ultrasound video will be spatially registered to the laparoscope’s video, and superimposed over it in the correct physical location. This system, once commercialized, will result in faster, more accurate and more effective interventions for a wide range of laparoscopic interventions.

InnerOptic will collaborate with physicians at the Carolinas Medical Center (CMC) to enhancement InnerOptic’s InVision™ System with this new technology and assess the clinical utility of these enhancements through case studies.

This is InnerOptic’s second SBIR grant from the NIH in two months. With matching funds from the State of North Carolina, these two awards represent over \$300,000 in grants.

“InnerOptic is grateful to receive this second grant from the NIH, providing us with the ability to make a significant advancement in visualization technology for minimally invasive procedures,” said Brian Heaney, InnerOptic’s CEO. “We look forward to working with the leading surgeons of CMC to develop and test these innovative systems.”

About InnerOptic Technology, Inc.

InnerOptic was founded in 2003 to commercialize the patented medical visualization technology developed by researchers at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. InnerOptic is revolutionizing image-guided procedures with its InnerOptic's InVision™ System, a “GPS for the surgeon” that improves a physician's ability to accurately perform complex minimally invasive procedures with intra-operative ultrasound. A privately held company, InnerOptic is headquartered in Hillsborough, NC. For more information, please visit <http://www.inneroptic.com/>.

National Institute of Health Acknowledgement and Disclaimer

The project described is supported by Award Number R43RR028016 from the National Center for Research Resources. The content is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official views of the National Center for Research Resources or the National Institutes of Health.